

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SWF-02 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02 SP-03

STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 SAJ-01

AEC-11 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-03 INT-08 L-03 NSC-07 PM-07

SCI-06 SS-20 FEA-02 NEA-14 DRC-01 /180 W

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R 101053Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1416

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 5054

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, BE

SUBJECT: TINDEMANS PRESS CONFERENCE ON EUROPEAN POLICY

1. SUMMARY: FOLLOWING SUMMIT MEETINGS IN PARIS AND BONN AND MEETINGS IN BRUSSELS WITH THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY KISSINGER, PRIME MINISTER TINDEMANS ON JULY 5 READ TO A LARGE PRESS CONFERENCE A TEN-PAGE STATEMENT, STRESSING HIS INTENTION TO STIMULATE A REVIVIFICATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, POLITICALLY, ECONOMICALLY, AND INSTITUTIONALLY. HE ALSO SPOKE ABOUT THE NEED FOR SIMULTANEOUS DEVELOPMENT OF UNCLASSIFIED

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RELATIONS WITH THE U.S., AND HE SPOKE OF THE NEED FOR

BROAD COOPERATION IN DEALING WITH THE ENERGY CRISIS.
FRENCH TEXT POUCHED TO WASHINGTON (EUR/WE AND EUR/RPE)
AND USEC. END SUMMARY.

2. TINDEMANS SAID THAT THE CONSTRUCTION OF EUROPE
REQUIRES PERSISTENT AND IMAGINATIVE DIPLOMATIC ACTION,
AND CITED HIS OWN RECENT TRAVELS AND TALKS AS EXAMPLES
OF WHAT MUST BE DONE. HE SAID THAT THE SMALLER EURO-
PEAN STATES, QTE FOR WHOM EUROPEAN CONSTRUCTION CONSTI-
TUTES THE ONLY REALISTIC FOREIGN POLICY OPTION UNQTE,
MUST BE READY TO SEEK SOLUTIONS ACCEPTABLE TO ALL,
WHILE ALL THE LARGER STATES MUST OF COURSE AGREE TO ANY
PROPOSED COURSE OF ACTION. TINDEMANS SAID THAT A
COHERENT ECONOMIC POLICY DEPENDS ON FULL PARTICIPATION
BY THE FRG (QTE THE PRINCIPAL ECONOMIC PARTNER UNQTE),
WHILE POLITICAL MOVEMENT WITHIN THE NINE REQUIRES THE
FULL INVOLVEMENT AND LEADERSHIP OF FRANCE (QTE HERETO-
FORE THE MOST HESITANT UNQTE).

3. TINDEMANS HAD THE FOLLOWING TO SAY ABOUT RELATIONS
WITH THE U.S. AND THE WORLD AT LARGE: QTE WE SHOULD
CERTAINLY ADOPT EUROPEAN POINTS OF VIEW IN LARGER
NEGOTIATIONS. IN AFFIRMING THIS, I BRING TO LIGHT
ANOTHER CONSTANT OF BELGIAN POLICY ACCORDING TO WHICH
THERE IS NO CONTRADICTION BETWEEN THE REINFORCEMENT OF
EUROPEAN UNIFICATION AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR
RELATIONS WITH OUR PRINCIPAL PARTNERS AND IN PARTICULAR
WITH THE UNITED STATES. THE DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS
WITH THE UNITED STATES WITHOUT THE SIMULTANEOUS SEARCH
FOR A DEFINITION OF EUROPEAN POSITIONS WOULD NOT BE IN
CONFORMITY WITH OUR WILL TO CREATE THE EUROPEAN UNION,
BUT IT IS OBVIOUSLY FALSE TO BELIEVE THAT REFUSING A
DIALOGUE WITH THE UNITED STATES WOULD ACCELERATE THE
PROCESS OF UNIFICATION. IN THE AREA OF SECURITY, AND
IN THAT OF ENERGY, EUROPEAN POLICY WILL BE EFFECTUAL
ONLY IF IT IS PROJECTED INTO A MORE GENERAL FRAMEWORK
UNQTE.

4. SPEAKING OF THE NEED FOR COORDINATION OF ECONOMIC
AND MONETARY POLICIES WITHIN THE EC, TINDEMANS ACKNOW-
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LEDGED THAT INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES HAD SPECIAL PROBLEMS
PERHAPS REQUIRING SPECIAL REMEDIES. HE WARNED, HOWEVER,
THAT MEASURES TAKEN TO DEAL WITH INFLATION OR TO REDRESS
NEGATIVE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS SHOULD NOT ENDANGER COM-
MUNITY ACHIEVEMENTS OR IMPEDE PROGRESS TOWARD ECONOMIC
AND MONETARY UNITY.

5. WITH RESPECT TO ENERGY, TINDEMANS CALLED FOR A

COMMUNITY ENERGY POLICY, COOPERATION WITH OTHER INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES, AND A POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE WITH OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES. HE RECOGNIZED THAT THE ENERGY PROBLEM COULD NOT BE SOLVED IN THE LIMITED CIRCLE OF THE NINE. WITH REGARD TO CONSUMER/-PRODUCER RELATIONS, TINDEMANS SAID THAT QTE THE INTERESTS OF PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS ARE NOT CONTRADICTORY, SINCE THE DISORGANIZATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMY THAT WOULD BE PROVOKED BY A NEW PRICE RISE WOULD HAVE GRAVE CONSEQUENCES FOR ALL THE PRODUCING COUNTRIES UNQTE.

6. TINDEMANS SPOKE IN FAVOR OF STRENGTHENING THE COMMUNITY EXECUTIVE AND PROPOSED THAT QTE POLITICAL DECISIONS ESSENTIAL FOR THE COMMUNITY BE TAKEN IN A SINGLE FORUM, OR FRAMEWORK (UN CADRE UNIQUE), GOVERNMENTS NAMING THEIR REPRESENTATIVES ACCORDING TO THE ITEMS ON THE AGENDA UNQTE. FOREIGN MINISTER VAN ELSLANDE, IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION, ADVOCATED GIVING MORE POWER TO THE COMMISSION, WHICH, HE SAID, HAS LOST SOME OF ITS POLITICAL INFLUENCE. TINDEMANS ALSO PROPOSED GIVING EC PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES GREATER NEGOTIATING AUTHORITY IN ORDER THAT AGREEMENTS MIGHT BE REACHED AT THAT LEVEL RATHER THAN BEING REFERRED TO MINISTERS IN EVERY CASE.

7. TINDEMANS SPOKE OF THE NEED FOR REINFORCING POLITICAL CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION AMONG THE NINE, STATING THAT QTE THE POLITICAL WILL OF STATES IS AN INDISPENSABLE PRECONDITION TO ANY PROGRESS ON EUROPEAN CONSTRUCTION UNQTE. HE NOTED THAT CONSULTATIONS AMONG THE NINE ON CSCE ARE A TEST CASE AND SAID THE NINE MUST QUICKLY DEFINE THE RESULTS THEY WISH TO UNCLASSIFIED

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ATTAIN IN CSCE AND THEN OBTAIN THE SUPPORT OF THEIR ALLIES FOR THEIR POSITION. SECONDLY, TINDEMANS SAID THAT THE NINE MUST CONSULT ON CONCRETE PROPOSALS FOR COOPERATION WITH THE ARABS. HE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET ON THE FRINGES OF REGULAR EC COUNCIL MEETINGS IN ADDITION TO THEIR NORMAL QUARTERLY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS. ASKED ABOUT AN EC SUMMIT, TINDEMANS REPLIED THAT THE SITUATION WAS NOT RIPE AND THAT ANOTHER COPENHAGEN IS TO BE AVOIDED.

8. COMMENT: TINDEMANS HAS BEEN A WHIRL OF DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY OVER THE PAST COUPLE OF WEEKS AND IS FAST CREATING A PUBLIC IMAGE OF HIMSELF AS A MOVER ON THE EUROPEAN SCENE. IT IS APPARENT THAT HE INTENDS TO CONCENTRATE HIS ENERGIES ON ATTEMPTING TO GIVE BELGIUM

A LARGER ROLE IN REVIVING FORWARD MOVEMENT IN THE
COMMUNITY AND ON PLAYING A LARGER PERSONAL ROLE IN
FOREIGN POLICY THAN HAVE HIS PREDECESSORS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, ENERGY, INFLATION, PETROLEUM, PRESS CONFERENCES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, ECONOMIC PROGRAMS, BALANCE OF PAYMENTS, PRICES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BRUSSE05054
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740183-1117
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740762/aaaacbjt.tel
Line Count: 173
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 OCT 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 OCT 2002 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <15 JAN 2003 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TINDEMANS PRESS CONFERENCE ON EUROPEAN POLICY
TAGS: PFOR, BE, US, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005